

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action issued November 5, 2003, claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Crim, U.S. Patent No. 5,920,866. Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Crim and Johnson, U.S. Patent No. 5,721,847. Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The informal drawings filed in the application were indicated as being acceptable for examination.

Claims 1 and 3-8 are now pending in this application. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 2 has been cancelled, and new claims 5-8 have been added.

The applicant acknowledges that the filed drawings are informal and will submit new formal drawings when the application is allowed.

The present invention is not anticipated by, nor obvious in view of, the references relied upon in the Office Action, as the prior art references do not disclose or suggest the claimed features of the present invention.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention according to claims 1 and 3 is not anticipated by Crim. Crim discloses a process and apparatus for generating value lists. The operations for generating a value list include providing a first database having a plurality of fields configured to display values that are associated with predefined information types. Preferably a second database having a plurality of fields containing values associated with predefined information types is also provided. Once the databases are provided, one of the plurality of fields in the first database is selected to be associated with a value list. The selected field will preferably have a particular information type, and the value list will preferably contain one or more values that are specific to the particular information type. The process then proceeds to define the value list to contain values from certain fields of the second database.

Thus, in Crim, the information displayed is values that are associated with predefined information types of the selected fields, and which the user may enter into the selected fields by selecting the data. Thus, the information displayed in Crim includes only values that a selected field or data item may have and which may be entered into the selected field or data item. By contrast, the present invention, for example, according to claim 1, requires that the at least one data field corresponds to a data item and the stored information defines one or more data items other than the data item corresponding to the at least one data field. In

Crim, the information defines only the selected data item, not data items other than the selected data item.

Thus, the present invention, according to claims 1 and 3, which depends from claim 1, is not anticipated by Crim.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention according to claim 4 is not obvious over Crim in view of Johnson. Johnson discloses a method and apparatus for inserting a selected graphic control within a spreadsheet, chart, or dialog sheet. The graphic control can be selected from a Forms button toolbar and then positioned within a desired workspace of a spreadsheet program. Johnson discloses using the right mouse button to perform functions. Johnson does not disclose or suggest that the at least one data field corresponds to a data item and the stored information defines one or more data items other than the data item corresponding to the at least one data field, as required by the present invention, for example, according to claim 1, from which claim 4 depends. Thus, Johnson does not cure the deficiencies of Crim with respect to this required element of the invention.

Thus, the present invention, according to claim 4, is not obvious over Crim in view of Johnson.

In addition, it is believed that new claims 5-8 are also allowable over the references cited by the Examiner. In particular, claim 5 recites information defining a computation to be performed, wherein results of the computation are to

be displayed upon user command while the form continues to be displayed. Crim discloses a value list that displays predefined values, not computations that are performed or displaying the results of any such computations. Likewise, Johnson does not disclose this requirement of claim 5.

Thus, the present invention, according to claim 5 and claims 6-8, which depend from claim 5, is not anticipated by Crim, nor obvious over Crim in view of Johnson.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention is allowable over the references relied upon in the Office Action. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 09/867,680

Reply to Office action of November 5, 2003 and

Reply to Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment of April 1, 2004

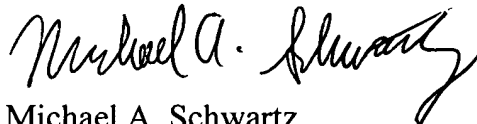
Additional Fees:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 19-5127 (19111.0056).

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, all of the Examiner's rejections to the claims are believed to be overcome. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all the claims remaining in the application. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below.

Respectfully Submitted,



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